



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Reichelt, et al.                      Art Unit : Unknown  
Serial No. : 10/660,896                      Examiner : Unknown  
Filed : September 11, 2003  
Title : AUTOMATED ITEM DISPENSING SYSTEMS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced patent application is a Form PTO-1449, being submitted prior to the first Office Action on the merits. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the remarks and references set forth herein.

The following documents are enclosed herewith:

- copy of Form PTO-1449
- Postcard
- copies of cited references

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

DECEMBER 5, 2003  
Date of Deposit

Susan Sesnovich  
Signature

SUSAN SESNOVICH  
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

**REMARKS**

The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of U.S. patent documents are not being provided. It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

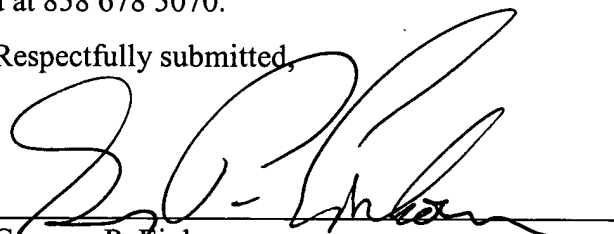
Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 06-1050. If necessary, please deduct any necessary additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 858 678 5070.

Respectfully submitted,

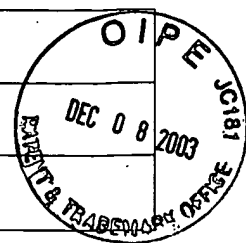
Date:

Dec. 05, 2003

  
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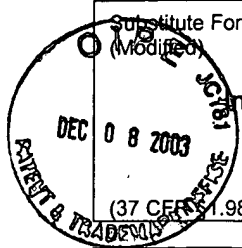
Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 16461-002001	Application No. 10/660,896
<b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b> (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Reichelt, et al.	
		Filing Date September 11, 2003	Group Art Unit Unknown



### U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	6,393,339	May 21, 2002	Yeadon			
	AB	5,701,252	Dec 23, 1997	Facchin, et al.			
	AC	6,003,070	Dec 14, 1999	Frantz			
	AD	5,844,808	Dec 1, 1998	Konsmo, et al.			
	AE	6,250,452	June 26, 2001	Partyka, et al.			
	AF	6,167,358	Dec 26, 2000	Othmer, et al.			
	AG	6,056,194	May 2, 2000	Kolls			
	AH	6,257,487	July 10, 2001	Hayashida			
	AI	6,264,104	July 24, 2001	Jenkins, et al.			
	AJ	5,822,216	Oct 13, 1998	Satchell, et al.			
	AK	4,306,219	Dec 15, 1981	Main, et al.			
	AL	4,366,481	Dec 28, 1982	Main, et al.			
	AM	4,412,292	Oct 25, 1983	Sedam, et al.			
	AN	4,354,613	Oct 19, 1982	Desai, et al.			
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	AP	4,120,452	Oct 17, 1978	Kimura, et al.			
	AQ	4,359,631	Nov 16, 1982	Lockwood, et al.			
	AR	4,553,211	Nov 12, 1985	Kawasaki, et al.			
	AS	6,050,447	April 18, 2000	Kovens, et al.			
	AT	6,182,861	Feb 6, 2001	Kovens, et al.			
	AU	6,234,346	May 22, 2001	Castleberry			
	AV	4,033,477	July 5, 1977	Hoppe, et al.			
	AW	6,186,358	Feb 13, 2001	Peteraf, et al.			
	AX	6,253,955	July 3, 2001	Bower			
	AY	6,000,522	Dec 14, 1999	Johnson			
	AZ	6,102,162	Aug 15, 2000	Teicher			
	AAA	6,123,223	Sept 26, 2000	Watkins			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	



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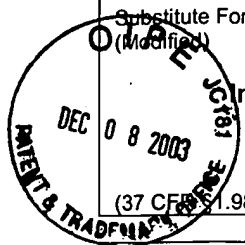
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	ABB	6,182,857	Feb 6, 2001	Hamm, et al.			
	ACC	5,730,316	Mar 24, 1998	Falk			
	ADD	4,087,020	May 2, 1978	Krakauer			
	AEE	5,605,249	Feb 25, 1997	Gonyea			
	AFF	D442,994	May 29, 2001	Hanyuda, et al.			
	AGG	D425,130	May 16, 2000	Kim			
	AHH	6,179,161	Jan 30, 2001	Kovens, et al.			
	AII	6,164,491	Dec 26, 2000	Bustos, et al.			
	AJJ	6,230,930	May 15, 2001	Sorensen, et al.			
	AKK	6,223,935	May 1, 2001	Vidondo			
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	AMM	6,241,121	June 5, 2001	Yasaka			
	ANN	6,241,119	June 5, 2001	Stephenson			
	AOO	5,728,999	Mar 17, 1998	Teicher			
	APP	5,590,812	Jan 7, 1997	Miyao, et al.			
	AQQ	2003/0057227	Mar 27, 2003	Janssen			
	ARR	5,902,984	May 11, 1999	Planke			

### Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	ASS	WO 01/52151	July 19, 2001	WIPO				
	ATT	WO 96/12254	April 25, 1996	WIPO				
	AUU	WO 97/29729	Aug 21, 1997	WIPO				
	AVV	AU684962	Jan 8, 1998	AU				
	AWW							

### Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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		Filing Date September 11, 2003	Group Art Unit Unknown

(37 CFR 1.98(b))

**Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)**

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AXX	<a href="http://www.zanussivending.it/Product/S&amp;F/SmartMore.htm">http://www.zanussivending.it/Product/S&amp;F/SmartMore.htm</a> "Snack & Food", July 19, 2001
	AYY	<a href="http://www.venco.com/fresh_and_frozen_food_machines.html">http://www.venco.com/fresh_and_frozen_food_machines.html</a> , "Fresh and Frozen Food Machines; July 19, 2001
	AZZ	<a href="http://www.biovend.com.au/features/features.htm">http://www.biovend.com.au/features/features.htm</a> , "Features & Benefits of the Biovend System", March 19, 2001
	AAAA	<a href="http://www.icon.pref.nagano.jp/usr/tmi/TMIE2.html">http://www.icon.pref.nagano.jp/usr/tmi/TMIE2.html</a> "Introduction of our products and stores under direct management", July 19, 2001
	ABBB	

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